

CUSTOMER NO.  
34456

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method comprising:  
receiving a request from a parent or guardian of a minor to sign up for an Instant Messaging (IM) service on behalf of the minor;  
providing a Web-based profile administrator interface to the parent or guardian;  
receiving a profile, created by the parent or guardian using the Web-based profile administrator interface, that comprises one or more control policies for usage of the IM service by the minor;  
receiving a request from the minor to log on to the IM service using a client device; and  
communicating information from the profile to the client device to modify the functionality of the client device to comply with at least one policy in the profile.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
using a policy engine of the client device to limit usage of the IM service to the minor based on the at least one policy.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the policy engine comprises a plug-in for an instant messaging client.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
using a policy engine of the client device to inhibit usage of the IM service to the minor based on the at least one policy.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the policy engine comprises a plug-in for an instant messaging client.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
using a policy engine of the client device to allow usage of the IM service to the minor  
based on the at least one policy.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the policy engine comprises a plug-in for  
an instant messaging client.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one policy indicates specific  
times when messages from members of a buddy list for the minor are to be blocked or allowed.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one policy indicates specific  
times when messages from anyone not in a buddy list for the minor are to be blocked or allowed.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
~~periodically receiving from the client device collecting information for a log of actions~~  
taken by the client device to comply with the at least one policy.

11. (Original) A system comprising:  
a first server to receive a request from a parent or guardian of a minor to sign up for an  
Instant Messaging (IM) service on behalf of the minor, to provide a Web-based  
profile administrator interface to the parent or guardian, and to receive a profile,  
created by the parent or guardian using the Web-based profile administrator  
interface, that comprises one or more control policies for usage of the IM service  
by the minor; and

a second server to receive a request from the minor to log on to the IM service using a  
client device, and to communicate information from the profile to the client  
device to modify the functionality of the client device to comply with at least one  
policy in the profile.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the client device comprises a policy  
engine to limit usage of the IM service to the minor based on the at least one policy.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the policy engine comprises a plug-in for an instant messaging client.

14. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the client device comprises a policy engine to inhibit usage of the IM service to the minor based on the at least one policy.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the policy engine comprises a plug-in for an instant messaging client.

16. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the client device comprises a policy engine to allow usage of the IM service to the minor based on the at least one policy.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein the policy engine comprises a plug-in for an instant messaging client.

18. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the at least one policy indicates specific times when messages from members of a buddy list for the minor are to be blocked or allowed.

19. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the at least one policy indicates specific times when messages from anyone not in a buddy list for the minor are to be blocked or allowed.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11 wherein the second server is to periodically receive from the client device collect information for a log of actions taken by the client device to comply with the at least one policy.